

REMARKS

Prior to entry of this Amendment:

- Claims **1-55** were pending in the present application

Upon entry of this Amendment, which is respectfully requested for the reasons set forth below:

- Claims **1-44 and 55** will be pending
- Claims 45-54 will be canceled

A. Election/Restriction Requirement

In order to comply with the Examiner's restriction requirement, we have elected the subject matter designated by the Examiner as "Invention I." The Examiner considers Claims **1-44 and 55** to be directed to "Invention I." [page 2].

We have cancelled Claims 45-54 without prejudice. In response to the Examiner's requirement for restriction, we plan to pursue the subject matter of Claims 45-54 in a continuing application.

At this time, we plan to file an additional paper adding additional claims consonant with this election.

B. Additional Comments

The Examiner asserts that Claims **1-44 and 55** are "drawn to a method for determining and outputting a message to a player via a game machine based on a triggering [sic] condition." [page 2].

We respectfully wish to clarify that independent Claims **8, 21, 28, 35, 36, 38 and 44** do not explicitly recite "a triggering [sic] condition" or a *trigger condition*.

Also, independent Claim **40** does not recite "outputting a message" (but in fact recites *suppressing output of a message*).

C. Conclusion


It is submitted that all of the claims are in condition for allowance. The Examiner's early re-examination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees that may be required for this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-0271. Furthermore, should an extension of time be required, please grant any extension of time which may be required to make this Amendment timely, and please charge any fee for such an extension to Deposit Account No. 50-0271.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment or the present application, the Examiner is cordially requested to contact Michael Downs at telephone number (203) 461-7292 or via electronic mail at mdowns@walkerdigital.com.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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